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**River Heights Academy Partners with Wayne County Community College
WCCC Downriver Campus will host students during temporary closure**

(Flat Rock, MI) River Heights Academy (RHA) is pleased to announce that the school year will start as planned on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Through a generous partnership with Wayne County Community College Downriver (WCCCD), River Heights Academy students will report to the WCCCD campus for classes while their campus building is temporarily closed. WCCCD will provide classrooms and dedicated outside spaces for RHA students to safely play and learn during this time.

Earlier this week a state of emergency was declared as a benzene spill forced the request for some residents of Flat Rock to evacuate their homes. Out of an abundance of caution, River Heights Academy temporarily closed their campus building on Olmstead Rd. Despite the current state of emergency in Flat Rock, MI, River Heights Academy will host in person learning.

“Safety is always our first priority,” Jessica Kull, principal of RHA shared, “Our staff has been working around the clock to ensure that we will be together with our students, and that our first week of school will provide fun, engaging activities. Our experience during the last 18 months has prepared us to handle any challenges that come our way; we will do whatever it takes to make sure our community comes back together again safely.”

Transportation, breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided. Students will follow their typical schedule, including starting school at 7:50am. Students are required to wear masks, and complete Pick-Up Patrol screeners each morning. Additional staff will be on site to help escort students safely to and from their classes. Logistics and details have been communicated to families.

About Distinctive Schools

Distinctive Schools is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and accelerating the work of charter schools serving kids from historically marginalized backgrounds. The team includes passionate educators and determined leaders who innovate, trailblaze and collaboratively lead a public education transformation, as well as ensure that each and every one of Distinctive Schools students thrive in college, career, and life. To learn more, please visit <http://distinctiveschools.org/>.

About River Heights Academy

River Heights Academy (RHA) is a tuition free school of choice. Founded in 2020, RHA currently serves grades PK4-8. The school cultivates a strong learning and working culture, and actively embeds social emotional learning supports throughout the instructional day. River Heights Academy supports each child in becoming an engaged and curious learner, a confident self-advocate, and a creative problem-solver by setting high expectations and nurturing a positive culture that honors diversity, collaboration, and optimism. To learn more, please visit <https://www.riverheightsacademy.org/>.